

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action dated February 1, 2008. Reconsideration and allowance of the application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 4-9 and 12-14 are pending in the Application. Claims 2 and 3 are canceled herein without prejudice. By means of the present amendment, claims 1 and 4-13 are amended including for better conformance to U.S. practice, such as deleting reference numerals typically used in European practice that are known to not limit the scope of the claims. Further amendments include changing "characterized in that" to --wherein--. Further, the specification and drawings are amended to correct clerical errors noted upon review of the application. FIG. 1 is amended to correct a usage of the designation "26" for both of a switch (FIG. 1) and internal teeth (FIG. 2). The switch designation is changed to 126 in both of FIG. 1 and the specification. By these amendments, claims 1 and 4-13 are not amended to address issues of patentability and Applicant respectfully reserves all rights under the Doctrine of Equivalents. Applicant furthermore reserves the right to

reintroduce subject matter deleted herein at a later time during the prosecution of this application or continuing applications.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging the claim for priority and receipt of certified copies of all the priority documents.

In the Office Action, restriction is required as between claims 2-9, 12 and 13, designated as Species A and claims 10 and 11, designated as Species B.

In response, Applicant hereby elects claims 2-9, 12, 13 and newly added claim 14 designated as Species A, for an examination on the merits including claim 1, indicated as generic to both of Species A and B.

The Office Action indicates that the oath or declaration is defective requiring a new oath or declaration since the oath or declaration does not state that the person making the oath or declaration acknowledges the duty to disclose to the Office all information known to the person to be material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56. A new oath or declaration is being obtained and will be filed upon receipt.

In the Office Action, the drawings are objected to due to a lack of features of the claims shown in the figures. In response,

the cited features have been added to FIG. 3. A replacement sheet including FIG. 3 is enclosed. Further, an annotated marked-up version of the sheet including FIG. 3 is enclosed for convenience. Applicant respectfully requests approval of the enclosed proposed drawing changes and withdrawal of the drawing objection.

Claims 2 and 9 are objected to for informalities. Claims 2 and 9 are amended herein in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion to cure the noted informalities. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2 and 9 are in proper form and it is respectfully requested that these objections be withdrawn.

Claims 1-9, 12 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as allegedly being indefinite. The claims are amended herein to cure noted problems with the claims. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that these rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 2 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,594,905 to Furst ("Furst").

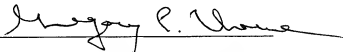
The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that claims 3-9 and 13 are allowable if amended to be in independent form. Applicant has canceled claims 2 and 3 without prejudice. The

subject matter indicated as allowable in the claims is incorporated into independent claim 1 and substantially into claim 14. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that claims 1 and 14 be allowed. Further, claims 4-13 depend from claim 1 and are allowable for at least this reason as well as for the separately patentable elements contained therein. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that claims 4-13 also be allowed.

In addition, Applicant denies any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicant reserves the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

Applicant has made a diligent and sincere effort to place this application in condition for immediate allowance and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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Enclosures: four (4) sheets of drawings including two (2) replacement sheets containing FIGs. 1 and 3 and two (2) annotated sheets containing FIGs. 1 and 3

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